

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 28, 2015

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C., 20460

Dear Administrator McCarthy,

We are concerned that the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed new ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) before completing implementation of the existing ozone standards. Between 1980 and 2013, U.S. Gross Domestic Product, population, and energy consumption grew substantially, while air emissions dropped significantly. Moving forward, EPA projects air quality will continue to substantially improve over the next ten years through various federal controls including state and industry efforts to implement the current 2008 ozone standard. EPA can support economic growth while continuing the decades-long trend towards cleaner air by maintaining the existing 75 ppb ozone standard and allowing time for our constituents to fully implement current clean air requirements.

EPA data indicates that the air is cleaner today than it has been in thirty years, progress due in large part to control measures associated with past NAAQS standards. This success shows that ozone NAAQS when given an opportunity to be fully implemented produce significant reductions. Companies seeking to build or expand facilities invest significantly in control processes. If a proposed standard cannot be met, nonattainment areas would be required to implement costly ozone-reduction measures and permitting requirements that could prove technologically difficult. Moreover, EPA acknowledges that there are alternative views on health effects evidence and risk information. Due to all these uncertainties, allowing the current standard to take full effect would alleviate any perceived concerns with measured scientific data and allow EPA time to further consider those uncertainties while still protecting air quality.

EPA's ozone rules affect all aspects of our communities and municipalities, including consumers and vital industries. EPA openly acknowledges that to meet national air quality standards a partnership is required between the federal government, states, localities and industry. Yet, the timing of EPA's proposal could strain state and local government resources. EPA delayed implementing the current 2008 standard for two years while it decided whether to reconsider that standard. EPA is just now providing states with guidance to implement the 2008 standard, and the state-federal clean air partnership should be allowed an opportunity to work.

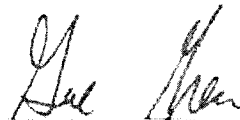
Indeed, states are currently investing substantial administrative resources to make up lost time. It could prove burdensome to force states to implement a new ozone standard at the same time they are only starting to implement the current one. We believe allowing sufficient time for existing measures to take hold, before setting a new ozone standard, would yield the desired results EPA is currently seeking.

While we recognize that EPA is under court order to complete its review of the ozone NAAQS, EPA has requested comment on maintaining the existing standard. We believe the full implementation of a standard of 75 ppb is in line with EPA goals and the ideals set forth under the Clean Air Act and, could possibly, by the next five year review, achieve lower emissions standards than originally sought. It is clear from the past that ozone standards can only achieve the desired results if they are allowed time to be fully implemented. EPA should keep in mind the newly laid out requirements in the delayed 2008 ozone NAAQS when considering whether to finalize a new, potentially stricter, standard. Therefore, we request EPA allow time for the benefits of the current ozone standard to become effective by retaining the current ozone standard.



Sincerely,

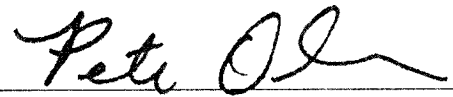
Robert E. Latta
Member of Congress



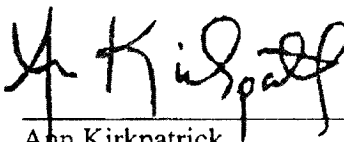
Gene Green
Member of Congress




Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



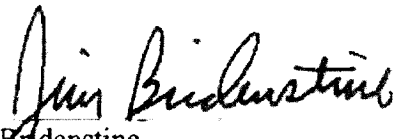
Pete Olson
Member of Congress



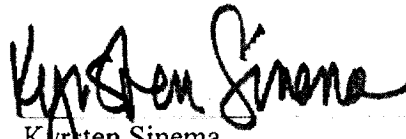
Ann Kirkpatrick
Member of Congress



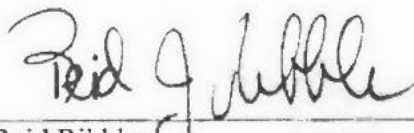
Kevin Cramer
Member of Congress



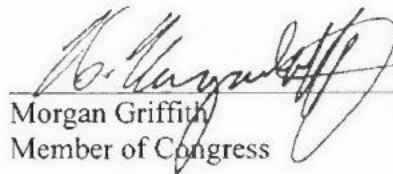
Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress



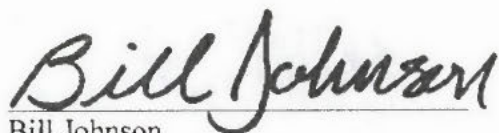
Kyrsten Sinema
Member of Congress



Reid Ribble
Member of Congress



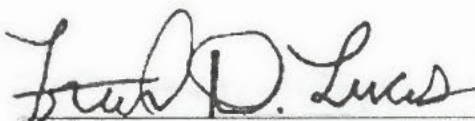
Morgan Griffith
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



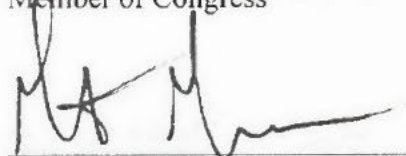
Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



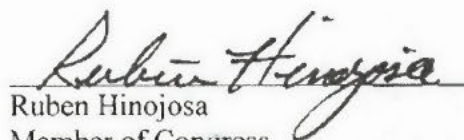
Frank Lucas
Member of Congress



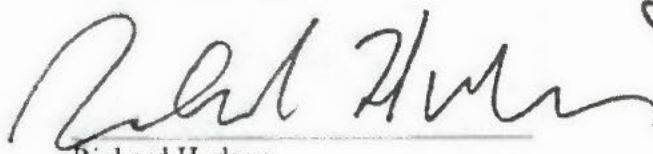
Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



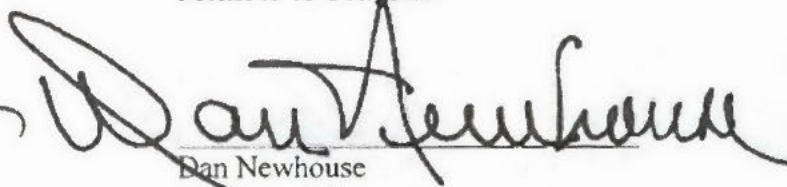
Garrett Graves
Member of Congress



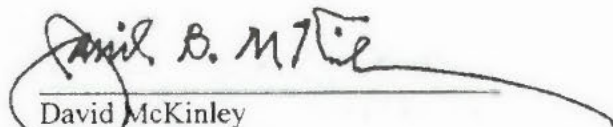
Ruben Hinojosa
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress



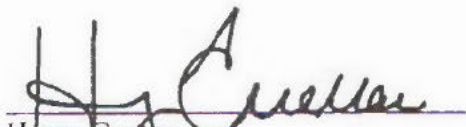
Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



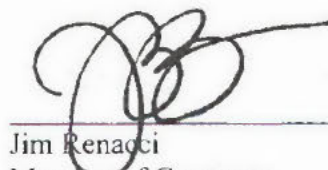
David McKinley
Member of Congress



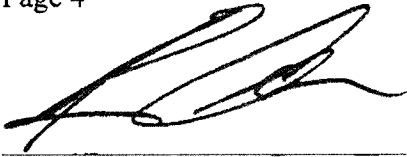
Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



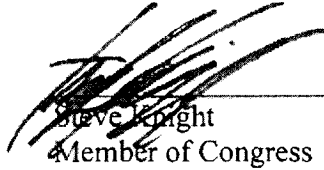
Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



Jim Renacci
Member of Congress



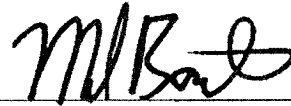
Ralph Abraham
Member of Congress



Steve Knight
Member of Congress



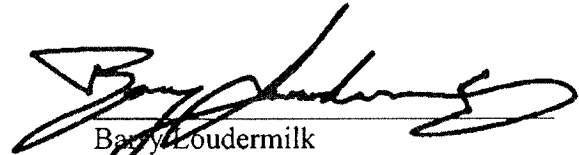
Gary Palmer
Member of Congress



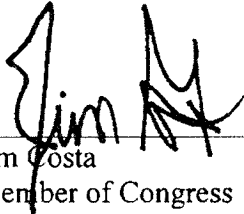
Mike Bost
Member of Congress



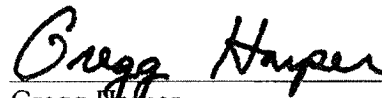
Thomas Massie
Member of Congress



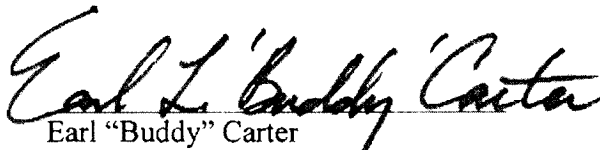
Beryl Loudermilk
Member of Congress



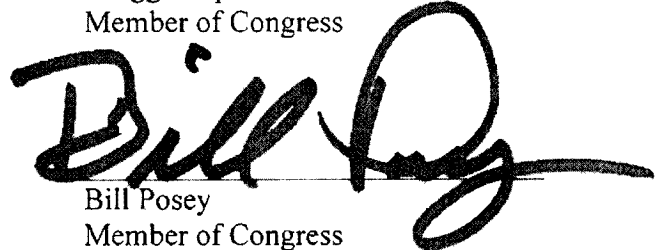
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



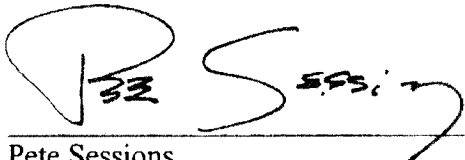
Gregg Harper
Member of Congress



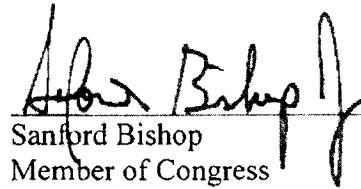
Earl "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



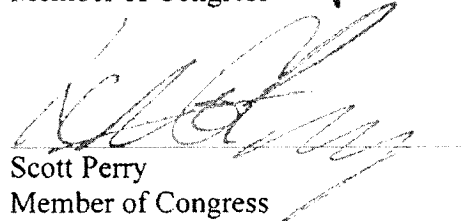
Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



Sanford Bishop
Member of Congress



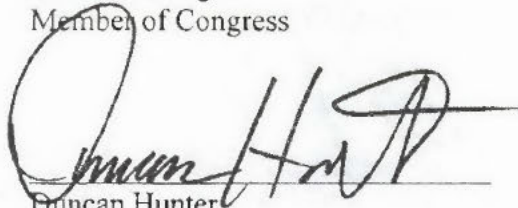
Bill Flores
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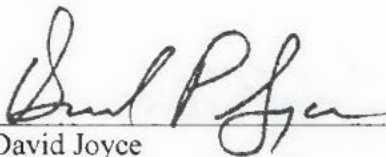
Scott Perry
Member of Congress



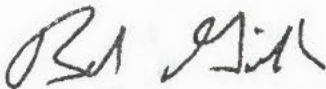
Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress



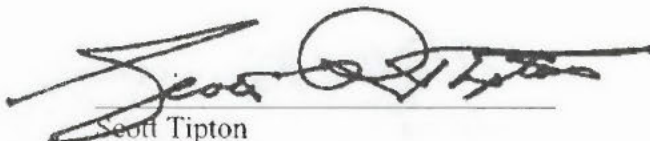
Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress



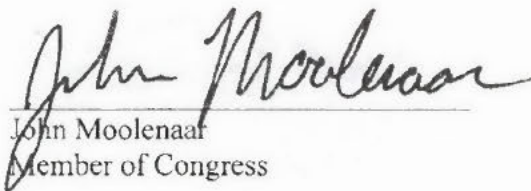
David Joyce
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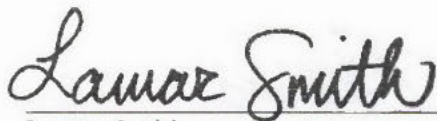
Bob Gibbs
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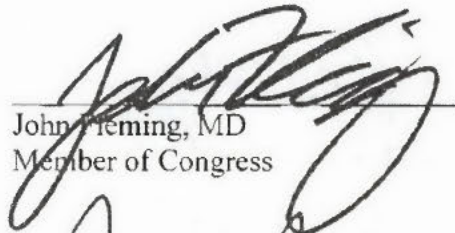
Scott Tipton
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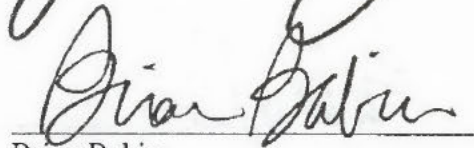
John Moolenaar
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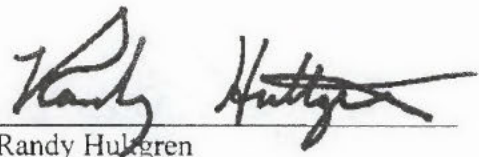
Lamar Smith
Member of Congress



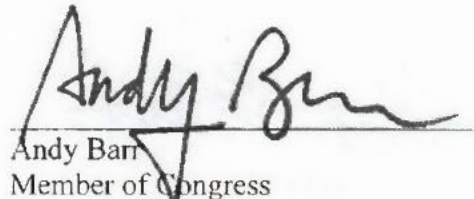
John Fleming, MD
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Brian Babin
Member of Congress



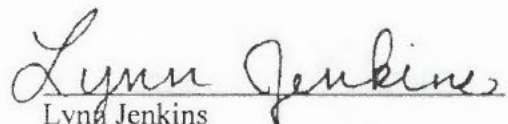
Randy Hultgren
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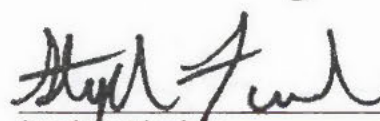
Andy Barr
Member of Congress



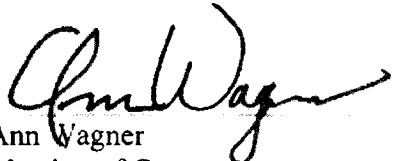
Al Green
Member of Congress



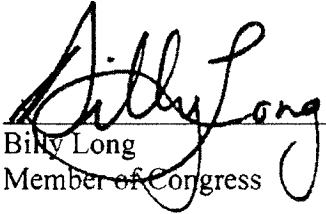
Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress



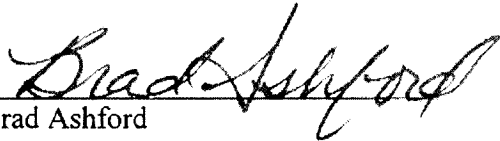
Stephen Fincher
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



Billy Long
Member of Congress



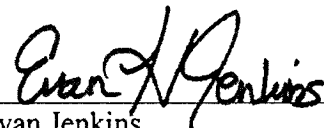
Brad Ashford
Member of Congress



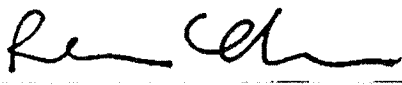
Ken Buck
Member of Congress



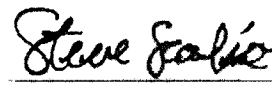
Susan Brooks
Member of Congress



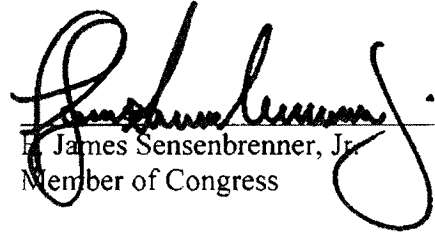
Evan Jenkins
Member of Congress



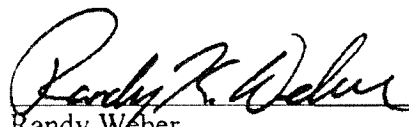
Renee Ellmers
Member of Congress



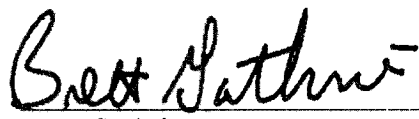
Steve Scalise
Member of Congress



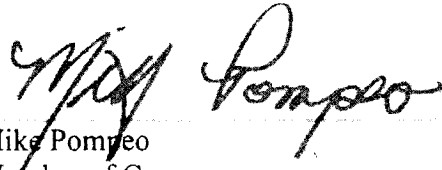
James Sensenbrenner, Jr.
Member of Congress



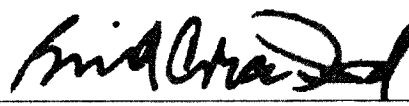
Randy Weber
Member of Congress



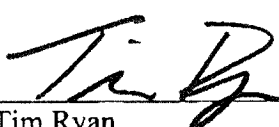
Brett Guthrie
Member of Congress



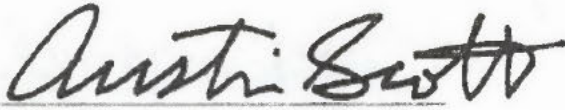
Mike Pompeo
Member of Congress



Rick Crawford
Member of Congress



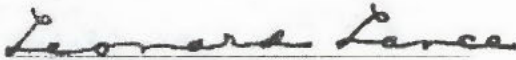
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



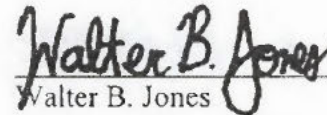
Austin Scott
Member of Congress



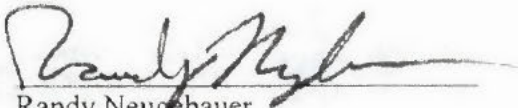
Hal Rogers
Member of Congress



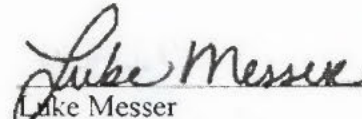
Leonard Lance
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress



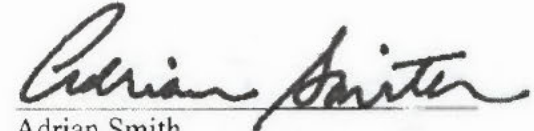
Randy Neugebauer
Member of Congress



Luke Messer
Member of Congress



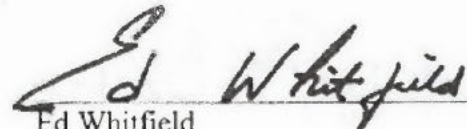
Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



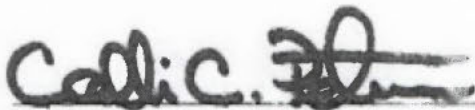
Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



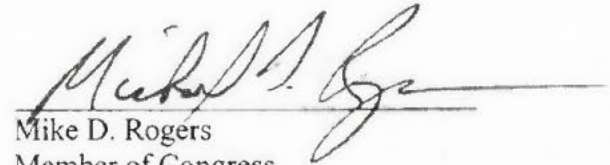
Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



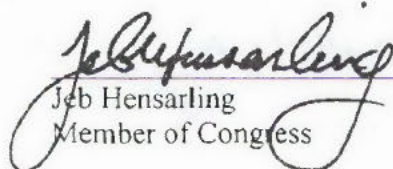
Ed Whitfield
Member of Congress



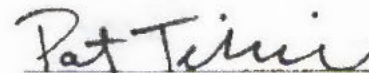
Collin Peterson
Member of Congress



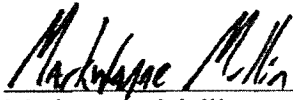
Mike D. Rogers
Member of Congress



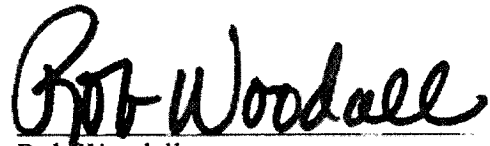
Jeb Hensarling
Member of Congress



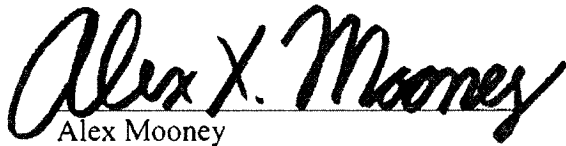
Patrick Tiberi
Member of Congress



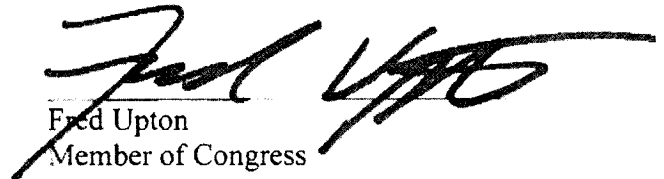
Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress



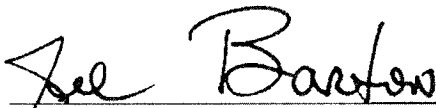
Rob Woodall
Member of Congress



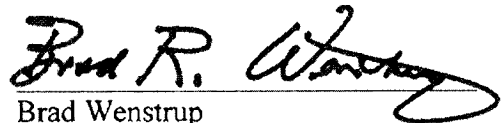
Alex Mooney
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



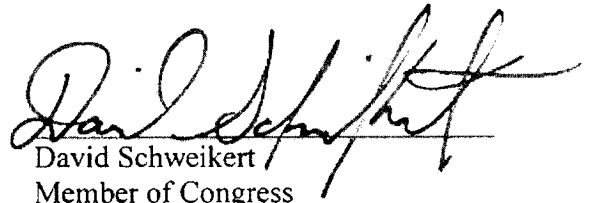
Joe Barton
Member of Congress



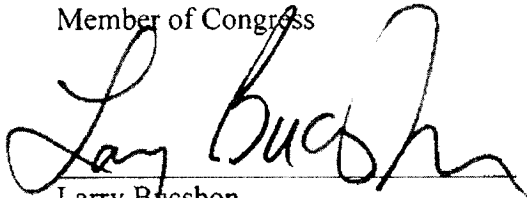
Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress



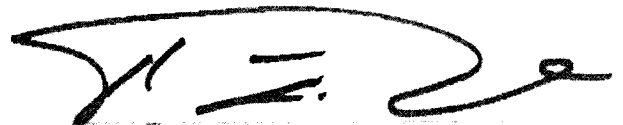
Chuck Fleischmann
Member of Congress



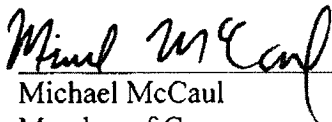
David Schweikert
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon
Member of Congress



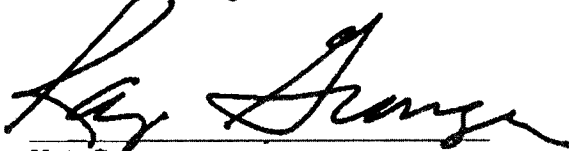
Cedric Richmond
Member of Congress



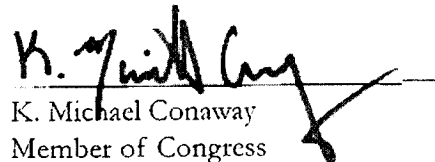
Michael McCaul
Member of Congress



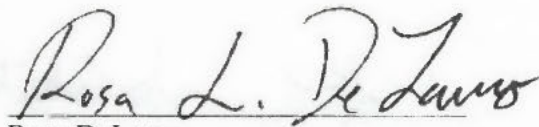
Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



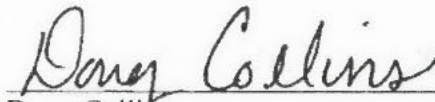
Kay Granger
Member of Congress



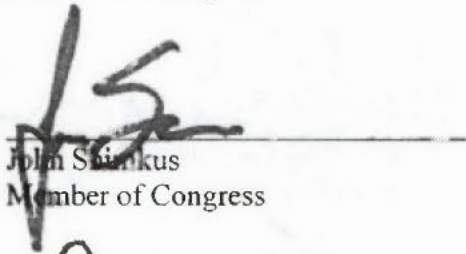
K. Michael Conaway
Member of Congress



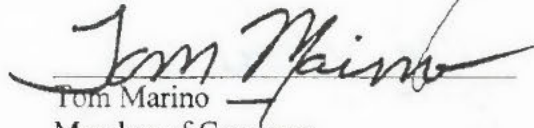
Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress



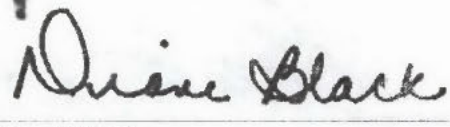
Doug Collins
Member of Congress



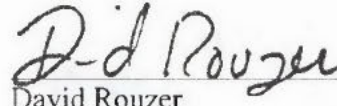
John Stankus
Member of Congress



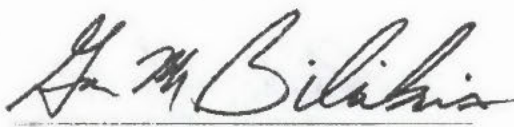
Tom Marino
Member of Congress



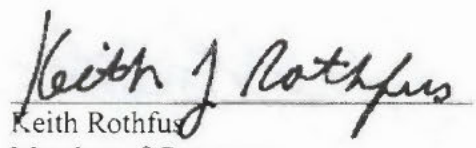
Diane Black
Member of Congress



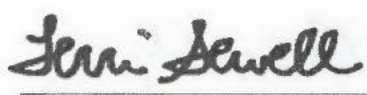
David Rouzer
Member of Congress



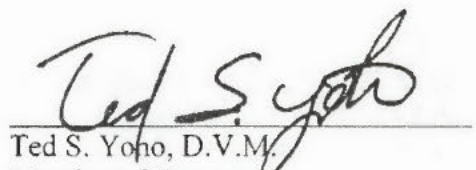
Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



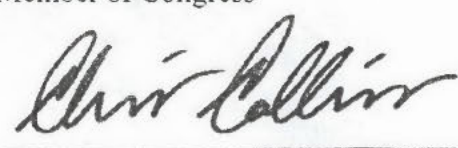
Keith Rothfus
Member of Congress



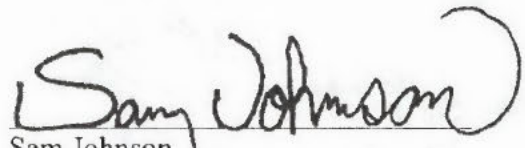
Terri Sewell
Member of Congress



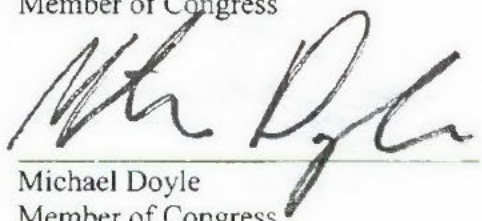
Ted S. Yoho, D.V.M.
Member of Congress



Chris Collins
Member of Congress



Sam Johnson
Member of Congress



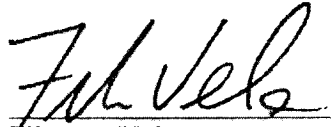
Michael Doyle
Member of Congress



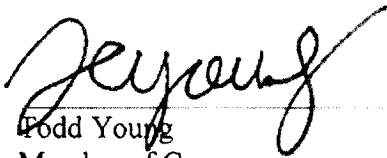
Sean P. Duffy
Member of Congress



John Culberson
Member of Congress



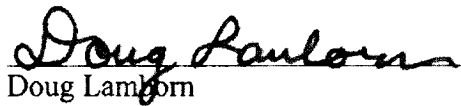
Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Todd Young
Member of Congress



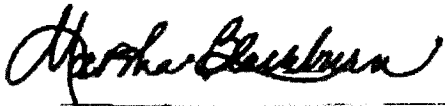
Jason Smith
Member of Congress



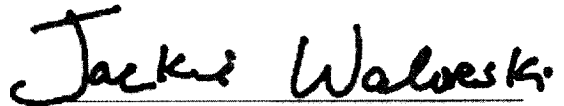
Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



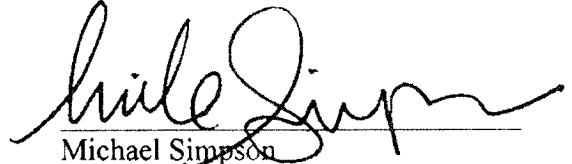
Phil Roe, M.D.
Member of Congress



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



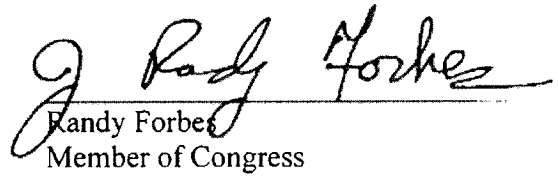
Jackie Walorski
Member of Congress



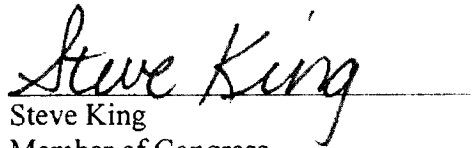
Michael Simpson
Member of Congress



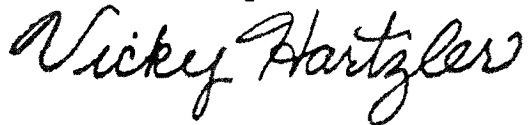
Andy Harris
Member of Congress



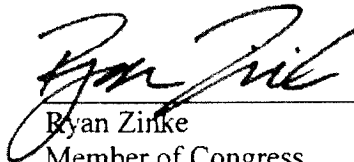
Randy Forbes
Member of Congress



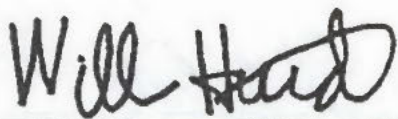
Steve King
Member of Congress



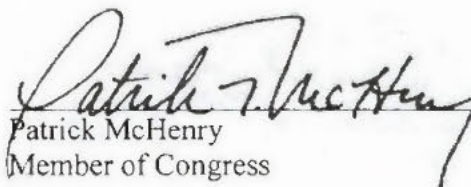
Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress



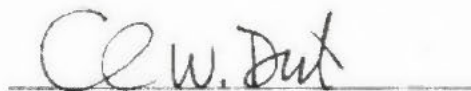
Will Hurd
Member of Congress



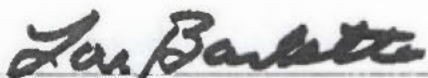
Patrick McHenry
Member of Congress



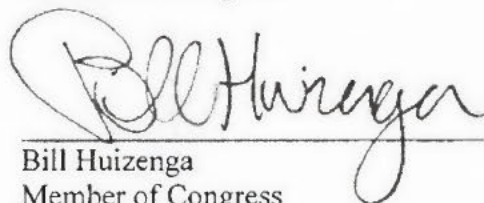
Kevin Brady
Member of Congress



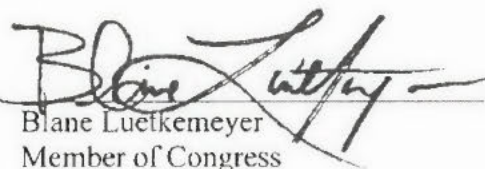
Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress



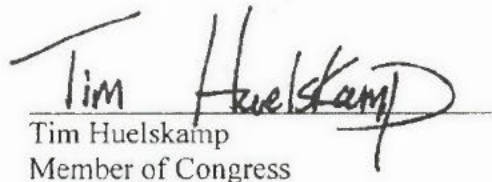
Lou Barletta
Member of Congress



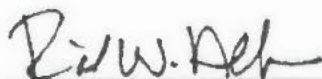
Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



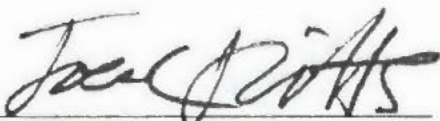
Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



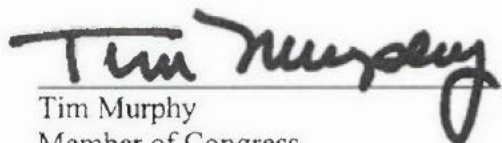
Rick Allen
Member of Congress



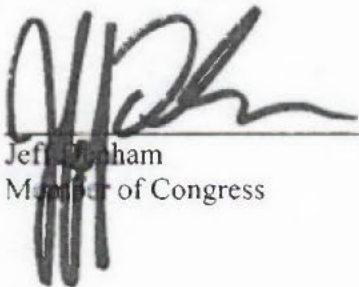
Steve Pearce
Member of Congress



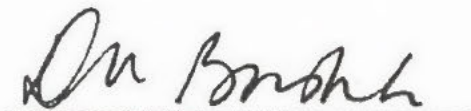
Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress



Tim Murphy
Member of Congress



Jeff Vanham
Member of Congress



Dan Benishek, M.D.
Member of Congress

The Honorable Gina McCarthy
July 28, 2015
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bradley Byrne', written over a horizontal line.

Bradley Byrne
Member of Congress

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rod Blum', written over a horizontal line.

Rod Blum
Member of Congress